

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS APRIL, 2005

PRINCIPAL'S INFORMATION

April is a busy month with the end of the 3rd quarter, April Break and then WASL testing. The Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) begins right after April break for students in 7th, 8th, and 10th grades. These are important tests for both grades and parents can help students do their best by encouraging them to do their best and take their time on the tests. Also ensuring that they get enough sleep and some food before they come to school on test days helps them to do well.

This is the time of year when we are encouraging sophomores and juniors to think seriously about their post high school plans. The earlier students begin to think about what they are doing after high school, the more likely they will be happy with their final decision. April Break is a great time to visit schools of all types. Most two or four year colleges will be in session which means that the campus will be full of students and you may be able to sit in on some classes. You can check a school's web site to find when they are offering school tours.

This year's seniors are doing very well and are ready to make those final or almost final decisions about schools or work or travel for next year. They are getting very comfortable with their choices after having thought long and hard about their own skills, interests, and finances. Observing the process that seniors use to make these choices is good for the rest of our students.

Our thoughts are turning to planning for next year as we begin the 4th and final quarter of this school year. High school students have received the High School Course Guide for 2005-06. They are to return the Class Selection Form before April Break but no earlier than Monday, April 4th. Students have been meeting with our counselor and working on their class requests for next year. Parents are welcome to call with any questions or concerns.

8th graders have not yet received the High School Course Guide. Nancy Wrightsman and I will help these students to select their classes. You can expect to see this information coming home around the end of April or beginning of May.

April Dates:

<i>April 3rd</i>	<i>Senior Class Fundraising Dinner</i>
<i>April 8th</i>	<i>End of 3rd Quarter</i>
<i>April 10th</i>	<i>Week of April Break</i>
<i>April 27th</i>	<i>5:30PM School Board Meeting</i>
<i>April 20th</i>	<i>AAUW 8th Grade Girls Trip</i>
<i>April 25th</i>	<i>7PM Understanding your Teens Sexuality</i>
<i>April 29th</i>	<i>High School ASB Elections</i>

SENIOR CLASS FUNDRAISING DINNER

The parents and students of the class of 2005 invite other parents, students and members of the community to a Senior Class Fund Raising Dinner on Sunday April 3rd in the school cafeteria. It will be an excellent Oriental Dinner with all proceeds going to pay for this year's Grad Night at the Funhouse.

SPAGHETTI DINNER THANKS

Thank you to all who attended or helped with the Middle School Spaghetti Dinner on March 17th. A special thank you to Rita Harvey and the parents who helped to prepare a delicious dinner. And we all liked the touches of green on the students and the community members who attended.

Thanks to Island Market who donated the food for the dinner. Their donation and the support of our community helped the middle school students to raise more than \$3,000 at this year's dinner.

9th Grade Parent Gathering Wednesday, April 6, 7:00 – 8:30

As the year draws to an end, now is a good time to reflect on what your child has learned about handling the demands of high school – academically and socially – and to find out what other parents have noticed about their teen's experiences in high school. Parent gatherings can reassure and offer ideas for parents to help their child successfully navigate the high school years and prepare for adulthood. The Orcas and Healthy Youth Survey Data will also be available for review by parents. There will be time towards the end of the meeting for informal socializing and sharing a snack if a parent would volunteer to bring one.

SCHOOL BOARD UPDATE

On February 19, 2005, the Orcas Island School Board met for a one day retreat. The goal of the retreat was to discuss mid and long-term goals for the district. The Board recognizes that it is often dealing with issues immediately put before it; in essence it is constantly "putting out fires" without the ability to stand back and look at the "big picture." A long term vision would help guide and shape the direction of future Board decisions.

Right now, the Board is dealing with the study of the current District Administration, the recent departure of our Superintendent, and with the implementation of the recently passed school bond. With all of these immediate agenda, it was decided that planning process for long-term goals would not start until July 2005 at the earliest.

After July, the Board is hoping to create a long-term planning committee for the Orcas Island Public Schools. The committee would consist of school staff, administrators, parents, community members and at least one Board member. The goal of the committee would be to look at the current state of our schools and plan for the future. For example, student population has been declining county wide. The OISD has seen a comparable drop in enrollment. Is this decline representative of a national trend or is this unique to San Juan County? What are the causes of this decline? What can we do to prevent further erosion in enrollment? Looking to policy: what role should mandatory testing play in the determination of curriculum? And how do we maintain the excellent quality of education when faced with decreasing federal and state funding?

In the next few months, we will be looking for committed volunteers to sit on the committee. It will be an important part of shaping the future of our public schools here on Orcas and we hope you'll be interested in being part of this dynamic group.

AAUW 8TH GRADE STUDY DAY

On Wednesday, April 20th, the members of AAUW (American Association of University Women) are sponsoring another Math/Science Day for 8th grade girls. This year the topic will be water and its use and misuse and the location is Camp Orkila. The members of AAUW have sponsored 8th grade girls study

days for a number of years with a different subject studied each year. Our students benefit from the support of such dedicated volunteers and we appreciate their time and effort on behalf of our students.

DRIVERS' EDUCATION

Drivers' Education starts this month, on April 21st. The classes are taught through Munros' Driving School in Mount Vernon and will be held from 5 to 7PM at the high school. The cost for the program is \$430 which includes the classes and driving time. If you have questions about enrolling your student in this program, please call the school office at 376-2287. If you have questions about the schedule or the content of the program, please call Munros' Driving School directly at 1-800-437-4834.

CONGRATULATIONS VIKINGS!!

The Northwest Board of Women's Basketball Officials elects and awards OHS Lady Vikings... The Sportsmanship Award!

Our Junior Varsity Ladies were chosen amongst 32 other JV teams #1 for their Sportsmanship. Our Varsity Ladies were awarded #2 overall amongst 32 high schools in the Whatcom, Skagit, and Island counties.

SNOW SPORTS CLUB SEEKS COORDINATORS

With six successful seasons to work out the kinks, the Orcas Snow Sports Club for middle and high school students is firmly established as a winter activity for Orcas students. We have a great time! Planning begins in October with an info meeting and sign-ups follow through November. Generally the first trip of six is the Saturday following the Holiday break and final trip in mid to late February. A faculty member serves as Advisor. Students serve as Club President and VP/Treasurer.

WANTED: Coordinators to serve as organizers and on-the-mountain and bus mentors for the Snow Sports Club. Desirable characteristics include ski or snowboarding skills sufficient to be on the mountain with the students; willingness to go on every trip to provide continuity and consistency for the Club; attention to detail for record keeping and financial oversight; familiarity with school protocol; ability to help with bus chain-ups when necessary; dedication to support our youngsters as they to develop a life long love of the mountains.

Sound like two different people? Most likely it is. The Parkers - Bruce and Victoria - found that their combination of skills worked to make the commitment fun and doable. While both their boys have graduated, they pledge their assistance to train a new duo (not necessary to be a couple - but they recommend a twosome because of the workload) and go on the first couple of trips as chaperones if that is desired.

Perks: GREAT time with a fine group of young people. Time to ski or snowboard. And Mt. Baker provides season passes to the two coordinators.

Questions: Call Victoria or Bruce 376-2996 or visit with Barbara Kline.

DRIVING SAFELY

If you or your student drive past the elementary school, please remember to stop completely at the stop signs and look around before proceeding carefully. There have been several almost accidents between elementary students and vehicles. Students think that the vehicle is stopped and start to cross while the driver does not see the student and starts to move.

So please stop and check for students before continuing and please remind students. It is also possible to avoid driving past the elementary school by using the other streets.

WASL TEST INFORMATION

The Washington Assessment of Student Learning, WASL, will be given to 7th, 8th, 10th and some 11th graders during the last two weeks in April and the first week in May. 7th graders will take tests in Reading, Writing and Math and the teachers will arrange the schedule for them over the three week testing time. 8th graders will take the Science WASL and their teachers will select a the testing time within the three weeks allowed.

10th graders will take Reading, Math, Writing and Science according to the schedule required by the state. They will start with the Reading WASL on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 19th and 20th. Then they will take the Math WASL on Thursday and Friday April 21st and 22nd. The following week they will take the Writing WASL on Monday and Tuesday, April 25th and 26th and finish with the Science WASL on Wednesday and Thursday, April 27th and 28th.

11th graders who did not pass one or more of the tests last year will retake tests this year with the 10th graders. Students only need to retake the test that they did not pass.

As they were last year, the 10th grade test scores for Reading, Writing and Math will be reported on students' transcripts which makes this an important test for them to pass. 10th graders will again test all together in the school library and from 8:30 – 10:30 regular high school classes will be suspended and high school students will have alternate activities. This allows 10th graders to concentrate fully on the WASL without distractions or worries about what is happening in Physics or Math or English or any other class.

All students can take the time to complete each test carefully because the WASL is not a timed test. Students may work on the test for all or most of the day if needed.

Parents can help their students to do well on these tests by making sure that students get plenty of rest and come to the test with a "do the best I can" attitude. We know from past years experience that if students do the best they can, many of the 7th and 8th and most of the 10th graders will pass all of the tests. We also know that if students do the best that they can, we will get accurate data on those who do not pass the test so that we can help ensure that they pass the next time they take the WASL.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For the last few years, parents have organized and brought food on WASL testing days for 7th graders and last year parents also brought food for 10th graders. This has proven to be a wonderful idea and it is amazing what a calming and happy effect this simple concept produces.

If you are the parent of a 7th grader or a 10th grader, you may get a call from a parent organizing to have food delivered on different WASL test days. If you would like to help with this project and have not been called, please call the school office.

ACTIVITIES DURING 10TH GRADE WASL

While the 10th graders are in the library from 8:30 to 10:30 for eight days of WASL testing, the rest of the high school students will be engaged in alternative activities. The 9th graders, for example, will take the Iowa Test that is required by the State and will take practice WASL tests which will scored and shared with them as a training for 10th grade. The 9th graders will be the first group who are required to pass the WASL in order to graduate.

The 9th and 11th grade students will be given the opportunity to practice research skills for writing research papers. 11th grade students will also do some Senior Project planning and other planning for their senior year and beyond high school.

Seniors will have some time and some assistance to work on their Senior Project presentations. All students will have presentations by staff from Planned Parenthood. Please see the Planned Parenthood article for more information.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

During the weeks of April 17th through April 29th, we will have Tracey Dalsted, and Joanna Johnston, the Education & Outreach Coordinator from Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood here to present and discuss sexual awareness, understanding and safety topics. Joanna has worked with our students in past years and we have found that the staff at Planned Parenthood does an excellent job of handling difficult but important topics in an age appropriate and interesting way.

The presentations will cover the some or all of the topics outlined below for each of the grade level groups. Please note that 10th graders are testing on those days and that sexual education is a component of the health classes for 10th graders.

Grades 7/8

1. Decision making and communication skills- focus on abstaining
2. Sexuality in the Media and Media Literacy.
3. HIV

Grade 9

1. HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Infections.
2. Birth Control Methods (including a focus on abstinence).

Grade 11

1. Healthy/Unhealthy relationships (including relationship violence, rape, consent and the dangers of mixing alcohol and drugs with sex).
2. STD and Contraception review.

Grade 12

1. Human Sexuality- Gender Expression and Orientation and sexuality throughout the lifespan.
2. Reproductive Health Review- Talk about exams for women and men, cancer screenings and infertility.

If you would like more information about any of these presentations or topics, please call the office at 376-2287 and speak with Barbara Kline, Nancy Wrightsman or Tamara Joyner, our school nurse. We can also put you in touch with Joanna Johnston of Planned Parenthood if you wish.

Joanna Johnston will also be the presenter at the parents Understanding your Teens Sexuality on Monday, April 25th at 7pm. See the article Understanding your Teens Sexuality for more information.

VISITING BAND

At the end of the WASL testing period for high school, on Friday, April 29th, we will be entertained by the Stanwood High School Stage band. They will play in the high school gym beginning at about 2:15PM.

The band has sixteen 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students under the direction of Dough Morasch. They have been featured at the annual Lights of Christmas Festival as well as other local and school concerts. They have successfully competed at the national Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in Moscow Idaho in both 2004 and 2005.

Understanding Your Teen's Sexuality

For parents of teens in 6th – 12th grades

Monday, April 25, 7 – 9 PM

Orcas School Library

Joanna Johnston, Community Educator for Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood will present:

- ✓ Parents as educators
- ✓ What children should know and when they should know it
- ✓ What teens want to know about sexuality
- ✓ Issues teens face
- ✓ Teaching values and encouraging responsible behavior
- ✓ Answering hard questions

Youth are bombarded by a popular culture inundated with expressed sexuality through music, movies, MTV, television programming and advertising. Sexuality education covers a wide range of issues and it is important that parents are engaged in helping their youth develop the skills to make responsible and healthy decisions about their lives. This workshop should be helpful for parents to be more comfortable and committed to communicating with their teens about sexuality. A few mature high school teens will be available to answer questions from parents regarding teen perspectives. Sponsored by Orcas Island Prevention Partnership. For more information, call 376-5259.

Key Club Elects New Officers, Sends Delegates to Convention

Jenole Peacock will bring her leadership skills to the role of Key Club president next school year after serving as vice president this year. She will take over from Leah Schmidt, current Key Club president. Jenny Boucher and Muriel Gallo-Chasanoff will both continue in their current roles by serving second terms as secretary and treasurer respectively. Jenna Schmidt was elected to serve as editor. Melissa Moran-Hodge was elected to serve as vice president.

Five Key Club members will be attending the 56th Annual Pacific Northwest District Key Club Convention in Portland April 8-10. Leah Schmidt is attending for the second year in a row. Jenny Boucher, Tai Agnew, Kallyn Bosch, and Melissa Moran-Hodge will accompany her. The group will be traveling with the Anacortes and Sedro-Woolley delegates, and joining 1400 Key Clubbers from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, northern California, British Columbia and the Yukon Territory for a weekend of leadership skills and project development training, as well as fun. Key Club and the Kiwanis are helping with sponsorship. This marks the fourth year that Orcas High School has sent delegates to the District Convention.

Career Choices Student of the Month -- Monte Ashby

Monte Ashby began working at Bilbo's in the summer of 2003 as a kitchen aide. He has proven himself to be a valuable employee because he displays some of the most basic good work skills—attributes that all employers value in their employees. "He is reliable, friendly, and personable," says Cy Fraser, Monte's supervisor. His work at Bilbo's builds on his previous restaurant work as a busser and dishwasher. Monte enjoys cooking and cooking, and has taken the school's Foods class.

Monte does whatever is asked of him on the job. His job tasks have included dishwashing, putting dishes away, juicing, heavy duty cleaning, and putting away deliveries and supplies. The lead cook recently recommended that Monte begin training as a cook. Fraser says they hope to begin this soon.

What Monte enjoys most about working at Bilbo's is the "nice boss" and the camaraderie of the staff. "They're really nice people and fun to work with." He adds, "They're almost like family." The feeling is mutual. Fraser says, "Everybody likes Monte a lot. He's doing great."

Career Choices is a vocational class that affords students the opportunity to earn school credit while working. Students also develop job skills and gain valuable employment experience.

DANCE, DANCE, DANCE

An Athletic Dept. FUNdraiser *****

Saturday April 30th 8pm-12pm in the High School Gym

Orcas High School students, Parents AND Community are invited to dance the night away with tunes from the fabulous 50's, sensational 60's, Super 70's, and exhilarating 80's . . . dig out your dancing shoes for a night filled with spirited good old fashion fun and lots of dancing...

- Dance contests
- Group dancing
- Door prizes for the best dressed single or couple for each era
- Soda Fountain featuring; Rootbeer floats, Cherry soda's, and snacks by donation

\$6 Single
\$10 Couple
\$15 Family

COUNSELING NEWS

April 8th marks the end of the third quarter, and it is time for all students to start thinking about next year. To date I have spoken to some of the junior class about their plans for their senior year and beyond. I plan to meet with them during April about their senior year schedules and their post high school plans. I will also review how to access the PETERSON and WOIS programs on the computers in the computer lab. These programs provide another opportunity for career and college/technical school exploration. By the time all juniors have been seen, next year's schedule should be in process, and I will begin talking to freshmen and sophomores about their five year plans and schedules for next year. Eighth grade planning takes place in the Life Skills class they take during either the third or fourth quarter.

Please note that the SAT will be given twice more this school year: May 7th and June 4th. The May 7th test will be given at OHS. The regular registration deadline has passed, but students can still make the late registration deadline of April 6th if they need to take this test. I recommend that all juniors take the SAT at least once during their junior year. The June 4th will not be given at OHS, but it will be given at Lopez. The registration deadline for this test is April 29th. Registration materials are available in the office, or one can register online at collegeboard.com.

The Local Scholarship Booklet will be distributed to seniors as early as possible this month. We are hoping to give it to students before April Break. Sometimes there are a few organizations that have not submitted their criteria by the time we distribute the booklet. If this occurs, once the school receives the information, it will be passed on to seniors in their social studies classes. Please encourage students to take time with these applications, paying special attention to grammar, spelling, neatness, and thoroughness. The quality of the application does make a difference. They are also required to meet the cited deadlines.

To date OHS has no representatives to either Girls or Boys State. Every year two junior girls and two junior boys are chosen by the local American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion respectively to represent OHS at these week long, summer conventions at which students learn about Washington State government firsthand. The American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion underwrite the costs for students to attend these conventions. Special thanks to them for offering this opportunity to OHS juniors every year. This is a wonderful learning experience for students as well as a fine addition to their resumes. If you have a junior in your household who is interested in finding out more about the Washington political system, please encourage him or her to apply ASAP.

Finally, it is **spring test taking time again.** In the elementary, middle, and high schools students in the fourth, eighth, ninth, and tenth grades will be taking standardized tests the weeks of April 18th through May 6th. Ninth grade students will take the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, and fourth, seventh, eighth, and tenth graders will take the Washington State Assessment of Student Learning devised to measure student competencies in the identified Washington State Essential Learning. Make sure students get extra rests and are in school that week. In order to facilitate testing please schedule any appointments or off-island trips for another week if possible.

JUNIOR PARENT INFORMATION

If you are the parent of a junior, you should know that there are two items that we are suggesting all students have completed as they start their senior year. One is that each student develop a clear concept for a senior project including a good thesis statement for their paper. The other item is that they have a good idea of the schools to which they want to apply.

Indecision in either one of these areas can lead to stress and unhappiness at the beginning of the senior year. Preparation in both areas does not relieve all stress but it does help make it manageable.

Teachers will do some work with juniors during the WASL testing activities times to help them plan for their senior year and beyond. Our counselor, Nancy Wrightsman, has been meeting with juniors to review their transcripts, to help them to plan their classes for next year and make plans for after high school.

In their US History classes, we will be asking juniors to select a senior project idea, do some reading and work on developing a possible thesis statement during the 4th quarter. We want them all to leave here in June with a good plan though we do realize that students may change their mind about the project's focus over summer.

Also, we are still hoping for juniors to attend Girls and Boys State. This is a fine opportunity to learn about our state government by participating in a mock city/state program at Central Washington University. Please contact Nancy Wrightsman(376-2287) for more information.

SENIOR PROJECTS

Senior projects have two basic parts and then a presentation. The first part is a research paper and the other is a project which is something built or learned or created or developed or something. The two are related in that the general topic is often the same. For example, if a student wants to study cars, he/she

might rebuild an engine as a project and research and write a paper on why and how car engines are changing in this century. The paper is due during the 1st semester and the project must be completed prior to the student's class presentation date.

The student creates a portfolio as he/she works on the project. This contains the student's paper and notes of meetings with his/her advisor along with other information about the process. At the Senior Presentation, the senior presents his/her project and information from the research paper to a committee. The committee grades the final presentation and project. Parents may also attend this presentation along with younger high school students.

The research paper is a persuasive or argumentative piece of writing. It is not a report in which the student gives the facts only. It contains a strong thesis statement which outlines the basis for the student's position on the subject. We find that if we can get the student to create a good thesis statement, he/she can usually write the research paper to back up the thesis.

Parents can help their student by helping them to define a topic that interests him or her. The question we often ask is "What would you study or learn about if you could choose any subject you like.?" Once they have a topic that is of interest, the student should do some reading about it. As they gather some more information, ideas for a research paper or a project usually surface.

Some students begin with the project idea and then need help defining a paper topic and a thesis. Others begin with a topic that they want to research and then need help planning and organizing a project to go along with their research.

The first step is to find a topic and then do some reading on the topic. Then students can create a concept for a project and paper around the topic. Our public library website provides access to research information as do other websites. In addition to the information and assistance that teachers can provide to students, there are many Internet sites devoted to teaching how to write a thesis statement or a good research paper.

ORCAS CENTER EVENTS

Internationally known dance company, Garth Fagan - one performance only - April 6 at 7:30 (get tickets early).

Kor Med Kor: Swedish chorus (65 members coming from Sweden) and the Orcas Acappella Singers one night only - April 13 at 7:30 (get tickets early).

Romeo and Juliet directed by Jane Alden, Opens April 22 till May 7 - 7:30 and matinee 4/30 - 2:00. Tickets are now available for all shows.

SUMMER THEATRE CAMP for youth 13 to 18 at Orcas Center.

This is going to be an incredible summer drama program! This year we have Ellen Graham, drama professor and stage director from Eckerd College. Ellen has an impressive resume of plays, and classes she has developed and taught in drama. Her background includes many years working with youth and college drama students. Locally, she has directed plays for A.C.T. and Northwest Actor's Studio. She will also be directing our summer production of Crimes of the Heart.

FUNHOUSE NEWS

Funhouse Teen Advisory Board

The Funhouse is looking for a few intrepid souls who are willing to help form a Teen Advisory Board. This group will help set policy and procedure, and plan events and programs for Teen Night. If you are interested, please contact Jeanne Beck or Darlene Pohl at 376.7187. Join this group and set the future for Teen Night at The Funhouse.

Funhouse Jam Sessions

The Funhouse music studio is ready for some serious jam sessions. Bring your own instrument, use one of ours, or bring a kazoo. We don't care. Just gather with your friends for an afternoon of playing music both familiar and new, and create songs and dances on the spot inspired by your own personal muse. Friday afternoons from 4:00 to whenever. No fee.

Open Mic

On Saturday April 2nd at 8:00pm The Funhouse is offering Open Mic during Teen Night. Bring your friends and your music, your poetry, your rap.

Teen Apprentice Program

The Funhouse Teen Apprentice Program matches a younger student with a high-school student for a 4 to 6 week period with the goal of the high-school student teaching the younger student a skill, such as playing the guitar, or mastering a drawing technique or helping them explore an interest, such as making a movie. They meet each week at The Funhouse. The high-school student earns a small stipend (\$50) for the commitment and the younger student learns a skill and makes a connection with someone they will continue to look up to for a long time. If your interested in this program

Spring Break Hours

We will be open regular hours from during spring break 3:00pm to 5:30pm come join us.

SOME SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Parents and students often ask us for some ideas of what to do over the summer. In this section we have included a variety of summer learning and working opportunities in this issue and will add others as they come in for the May/June issue. There are opportunities for work or study both on and off island and we have listed just a few of the many possibilities available. If you have questions or would like to discuss these or other opportunities, please call the office at 376-2287 and talk with Barbara Kline or Nancy Wrightsman.

Girls or Boys State is open to two girls or two boys in the 11th grade who would like to spend a week at Central Washington University learning about our state government. It is sponsored by the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary who fund the program so that the program is free to the students who attend. For more information, please see Nancy Wrightsman

Brown University offers a program for exceptional students and courses run from 1 week to 7 weeks. The courses offered are: pre-med, robotics, literature, and many others. For more information please see Brown University web site at www.brown.edu/summer.

A wide variety of summer classes are offered at the University of Washington for high school or younger students. There are online and on site classes for credit or for just a week or so. For more information see the UW Summer Programs on the University of Washington web site at:

<http://summeryouth.washington.edu/syp/>

Western Washington University also offers a wide range of programs for students . For more information see the Western Washington University web site or:
www.acadweb.wvu.edu/eesp/youth/youthhome.asp

Nancy Wrightsman has information about other summer programs at WSU, the Oregon College of Arts and Crafts, Harvard, Boston University, Carnegie Melon, The North Cascades Institute an a nursing camp at Seattle Pacific.

The Junior Statesmen Foundation offers a special summer school opportunity for outstanding high school students. The Junior Statesmen Summer School program will enable 1500 selected high school students to attend special programs at Georgetown, Princeton, Yale, Stanford and Northwestern Universities, bringing together groups of exceptional students with outstanding speakers including national leaders and university scholars, as well as field trips to political and cultural centers, together with rigorous study assignments including writing and speaking activities. Cost is \$3,675 including room, board and instruction; some scholarship assistance is available.

For details log onto <www.jsa.org>
or write
The Junior Statesmen Foundation,
400 S. El Camino Real, Suite 300,
San Mateo CA 94402-9853

The Close Up Foundation offers programs in Washington DC in the summer and throughout the year. For more information see the web site: www.closeup.org/

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Orcas Island School District's DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION serves people with disabilities from birth to age 21. If you suspect that you or your child may have a disability, please call the District Office at 376-2284.

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

The Annual School Report Card for the Orcas Island School District and its individual schools as required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act can be found at www.k12.wa.us <<http://www.k12.wa.us>> (Click on ESEA Report Card link, select Orcas Island School District, and click on ESEA Report Card for the district or an individual school.) If you do not have Internet access, copies of the Annual Report Card are available at the District Office."